

DECLARATION OF MICHAEL HICKENLOOPER
Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746

I, Michael Hickenlooper, have personal knowledge of the facts and matters set forth below. If called as a witness, I could and would testify as follows:

1. My name is Michael Hickenlooper. I am over the age of 18 and reside in Woodstock, Georgia.
2. In approximately February 2022, a friend told me that he had signed up with a company called Passive Scaling. This company manages third-party e-commerce stores on Amazon and Walmart for clients who pay them a management fee. I went to the Passive Scaling website to check out the company. I saw a flashy video on the website where a potential client was visiting Passive Scaling's warehouse and someone in the video showed up in a luxury sportscar. This left me with an impression that this was a lucrative business. I then spoke with an employee at Passive Scaling named Shion.
3. Shion sent me a spreadsheet that projected profits of an Amazon store, and I spoke with him about it. He said that the ramp up is slow, but I will be making a return on my investment within a year and will have profits of approximately \$100,000 within two years. I asked him how much working capital (money to buy inventory to sell on my Amazon store) would I need to get to \$1 million in profit. Shion said that if I had \$500,000 to invest, Passive Scaling could quickly get me to a million dollars in profit. Attached as **Attachment A** is a true and correct copy of the profit forecast spreadsheet.
4. I spoke with Shion three or four times, and he also told me that if I did not see a return of my initial fee within 18 months, Passive Scaling would return my initial fee. He also told me that the quickest way to earn more income was to have more stores. Based on the guarantee and profit forecast, I thought this would be a very low-risk way to make income.

I get paid on commission for my day job, and I believed that this would be a great way to supplement my income.

5. In March 2022 I signed a contract with Passive Scaling for two Amazon stores, and I paid \$50,000 via wire transfer. The contract also said that I had to pay 35% of my net profit to Passive Scaling monthly as well as a monthly software fee of \$99. The agreement was between me and Passive Scaling Inc, 78 John Miller Way, Suite 2111, Kearny, NJ 07032. For my initial fee, Passive Scaling was supposed to set up the stores, manage the stores, manage customer service, manage customer reviews, and order and track inventory. I just needed to approve the inventory purchases and get paid passive income monthly. Attached as **Attachment B** is a true and correct copy of this contract.
6. The contract contains a non-disparagement clause that says:

“During this Agreement and for one (1) year thereafter, the Parties mutually agree that any issues or problems that either party has regarding the other with respect to this Agreement, shall be discussed with the other party in a professional and private manner. The Parties hereby mutually agree not to disparage, insult, or fabricate information regarding the other party in any online or offline forum or any other forum whatsoever, including but not limited to social media channels, regardless of whether such comments or information would not constitute libel or slander, and regardless of whether such comments could be deemed factually true.”
7. I never received any document from Passive Scaling with any information substantiating the earning and profit claims contained in their profit forecast spreadsheet, or told to me over the phone with the sales agent. I also never received a document from Passive Scaling telling me whether the company has been subject to legal action or a list of consumers who purchased their services in the past three years.
8. It took approximately seven months for Passive Scaling to set up my stores, and during this time I spoke mainly with an employee named Jerdonna.

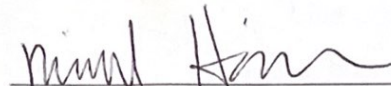
9. Passive Scaling didn't start purchasing inventory until approximately January 2023 and it took until approximately April 2023 to reach my stores and begin making any sales. Jerdonna stopped working with me, and I was switched over to the Hourly Relief crew, the company that ordered my inventory.
10. I invested approximately \$45,000 total for inventory for the two stores. The first invoices were paid directly to Passive Scaling as ACH transfers totaling approximately \$32,000. Sometimes Passive Scaling sent me the invoices from suppliers, I would pay the suppliers to ship the inventory to Passive Scaling's warehouse, and Passive Scaling would send the inventory to Amazon's warehouses for fulfillment. Jericho@hourlyrelief.com was my account manager, but I wired money directly to companies called Frankle and Frankle and Frontier Natural.
11. Passive Scaling used Sales.Support to track my inventory, manage the inventory, list pricing for inventory, and manage the store. This is what I paid \$99 per month for.
12. As we started to make inventory purchases, I had questions about the stores and inventory, but I had a difficult time getting Jerdonna or anyone else on the phone or to respond via email to my questions.
13. I discovered through Sales.Support that much of the inventory I purchased seemed to be missing. When I asked about it, Passive Scaling either would not respond or would not provide an explanation.
14. At the 18-month mark, both stores were operating at losses. I had some sales, but I made no profits. My net income for one store was -\$8,934.83 and my net income for the second store was -\$19,823.08. This does not include the initial \$50,000 fee I lost. Attached as **Attachment C** is a true and correct copy of the profit and loss statements for both stores.

15. I reached out to Passive Scaling to get a refund since I reached the 18-month mark. It took multiple follow-ups for someone to finally give me an email (the same contact email on their website) to reach out to. I was told this would take me to the legal team. I received one email that said my stores had not been active for 18 months and that is why I could not get a refund. The email also requested that I reach out to the Better Business Bureau to resolve the complaint I filed so that I can continue to work with Passive Scaling. Attached as **Attachment D** is a true and correct copy of this email string.
16. I responded by stating that communication has been very poor, my stores are operating at a loss, and I have spent close to \$30,000 on inventory but haven't received the inventory I paid for. *See Attachment D.*
17. On November 7, 2023, I received an email that I will receive a settlement agreement within a week. It said, "we have started to provide clients with settlements these settlements are 50-70% of the initial amount paid. We will provide you with a follow-up for the next steps. I never received a settlement letter and never heard from anyone again. *See Attachment D.*
18. My friend who told me about this business opportunity had a similar experience as I did, but he cut his losses and walked away before I did.
19. I never made a profit to pay the 35% profit sharing fee. While I did receive some deposits from Amazon for my sales, I never recovered the money I spent on inventory or to set up the stores. In addition, there are consistent charges to both Amazon accounts from SWIFT SHIP WWW.SWIFTSHIP.NJ. I assume that these small charges were for shipping

costs based on the name, but I do not know for sure.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on: February 13th, 2024
Woodstock, Georgia

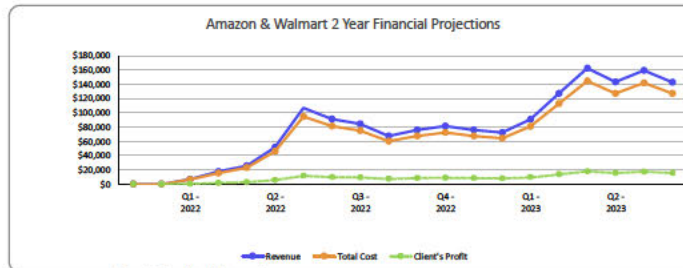


Michael Hickenlooper

1	Starting Period	Q1
2	Bundle type	Single Amazon Store
3	Working Capital Per Store	\$50,000
3	Management Profit Percentage	35%

Totals	Year 1	Year 2	24 Mo Total
Gross Revenue	\$609,501	\$1,454,898	\$2,064,399
Expenses	\$542,242	\$1,294,132	\$1,836,373
Client's Profit	\$67,259	\$160,766	\$228,026

Projected Asset Value at Mo 25	-	\$741,998
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Twenty Four Month Forecast

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year 1
Working Capital	-	-	2,259	5,648	8,391	16,782	34,702	29,660	27,503	21,975	24,683	26,485	
Gross Revenue	-	-	6,951	17,378	25,818	51,636	106,776	91,263	84,624	67,614	75,949	81,492	609,501
Cost of Goods	-	-	4,518	11,296	16,782	33,563	69,404	59,321	55,006	43,949	49,367	52,970	396,176
Amazon Fees	-	-	1,390	3,128	4,647	9,294	19,220	16,427	15,232	12,171	13,671	14,669	109,849
Store Profit	-	-	1,043	2,954	4,389	8,778	18,152	15,515	14,386	11,494	12,911	13,854	103,476
Management Fee	-	-	365	1,034	1,536	3,072	6,353	5,430	5,035	4,023	4,519	4,849	36,217
Clients Profit	-	-	678	1,920	2,853	5,706	11,799	10,085	9,351	7,471	8,392	9,005	67,259

0.11035

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year 2
Working Capital	24,692	23,479	29,494	41,263	52,860	46,517	51,901	46,465	39,651	30,187	34,824	51,509	
Gross Revenue	75,976	72,243	90,750	126,963	162,647	143,130	159,694	142,970	122,002	92,882	107,151	158,490	1,454,898
Cost of Goods	49,384	46,958	58,988	82,526	105,721	93,035	103,801	92,931	79,301	60,373	69,648	103,019	945,684
Amazon Fees	13,676	13,004	16,335	22,853	29,276	25,763	28,745	25,735	21,960	16,719	19,287	28,528	261,882
Store Profit	12,916	12,281	15,428	21,584	27,650	24,332	27,148	24,305	20,740	15,790	18,216	26,943	247,333
Management Fee	4,521	4,298	5,400	7,554	9,677	8,516	9,502	8,507	7,259	5,526	6,375	9,430	86,566
Clients Profit	8,395	7,983	10,028	14,029	17,972	15,816	17,646	15,798	13,481	10,263	11,840	17,513	160,766

Working Capital = For each two week period

	Q1 - 2022			Q2 - 2022			Q3 - 2022			Q4 - 2022			Q1 - 2023			Q2 - 2023			Q3 - 2023			Q4 - 2023		
Revenue	-	-	6,951	17,378	25,818	51,636	106,776	91,263	84,624	67,614	75,949	81,492	75,976	72,243	90,750	126,963	162,647	143,130	159,694	142,970	122,002	92,882	107,151	158,490
Total Cost	-	-	6,273	15,458	22,965	45,930	94,977	81,178	75,273	60,143	67,557	72,487	67,581	64,260	80,722	112,934	144,675	127,314	142,048	127,172	108,521	82,619	95,311	140,977
Client's Profit	-	-	678	1,920	2,853	5,706	11,799	10,085	9,351	7,471	8,392	9,005	8,395	7,983	10,028	14,029	17,972	15,816	17,646	15,798	13,481	10,263	11,840	17,513

Ecommerce consulting contract Amazon (2x) 50k Bundle

Initial Consulting Fee "Store Infrastructure Fee" – this goes directly towards warehousing expenses, full time employees & benefits, consulting expertise, web build & store build, product selection, & initial inventory:

Price \$50,000 ~ Quantity 2 Amazon FBA ~ Total Price \$50,000

Management Fee – \$199 or 35% Minimum management fee of \$199 per month or thirty five percent (35%) of net profit – this fee begins the following month after fulfillment of initial payment:

Price \$199 ~ Monthly \$199 ~ Total Price \$199

Software Fee – Fee paid directly to software provider:

Price \$99 ~ Monthly \$99 ~ Total Price \$99

Minimum Working Capital – \$10,000 This is the minimum requirement of available credit or capital to cover inventory & wholesale price of drop shipped items. Amazon pays every two weeks, and this money covers orders until the scheduled store payout.

Recommended credit available for expedited scaling process is \$15,000.

Total one time fee: \$50,00

This E-Commerce Consulting Agreement ("Agreement"), is dated as of, 1st March 2022 , by and between PASSIVE SCALING INC, a New Jersey Corporation company, whose address is 78 John Miller Way , Suite 2111 , Kearny NJ 07032 (hereinafter "Consultant"), and , Michael Hickenlooper (hereinafter "Client").

WHEREAS, Client desires to engage Consultant's services, as an independent contractor, upon the terms and conditions herein set forth; and

WHEREAS, Consultant desires to render consulting services to Client upon the terms and conditions herein set forth; NOW, THEREFORE, Consultant and Client (together, the "Parties"), for \$10.00 and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency are hereby mutually acknowledged, agree to the following terms and conditions whereby Consultant shall consult Client in connection with an e-commerce store on the Amazon FBA platform (the "Store"):CONSULTANT'S SERVICES – Consultant agrees to perform the following services ("Services"):Maintain Client's Store,

Attachment B

including configuring the Amazon FBA storefront and configuring the frontend back end systems necessary to manage the Store. Review, research, source, select, and list products for the Client's Store. Respond to customers' phone and email inquiries in support of Client's Store and shall exercise good faith efforts to resolve customer inquiries, handle product returns, and manage billing matters. Maintain oversight of Client's Store and its financial performance; however, Consultant shall have no obligation to, and does not intend to, provide financial advice to Client concerning the operation of Client's Store (Client shall confer with its professional financial advisors concerning all financial inquiries).

CLIENT RESPONSIBILITIES.

Client understands there is a period that will delay the commencement and commercial operations of the Store, including, without limitation, a 1 to 4 month configuration period (and perhaps longer, depending on the circumstances specific to each proposed Store) where Client must complete certain obligations. Until Client satisfies all contractual and legal requirements for the creation and operation of Client's Store, Consultant cannot commence providing the Services as set forth in Section 1 of this Agreement. Within the first eight (8) months of this Agreement, Client will use best efforts to obtain, and maintain for the duration of this Agreement, a credit card issued through a United States federally insured banking institution with a minimum credit limit of fifteen thousand (\$15,000.00) dollars USD. In no event shall Consultant be responsible for payment of any kind and any other obligation under Client's credit card, all of which credit card obligations shall be solely that of Client. Furthermore, unless Consultant provides written consent: (i) at no time shall Client Pause its Store, allow for a Suspension, or place its Amazon FBA account or Store in Vacation Mode, such terms being defined or referenced on the Amazon FBA website or in other written materials made available to Client; and (ii) Client shall not allow its Store to remain shut down for more than ninety (90) days during the term of this Agreement. (B) Within thirty (30) days from the commencement of this Agreement, Client shall provide Consultant with only necessary information for the purpose of Consultant carrying out its obligations under this Agreement. Client shall use its best efforts to assist Consultant in obtaining all information deemed necessary by Consultant to implement Consultant's Services. COMPENSATION. In consideration for this Agreement, Client shall pay Consultant a one-time consulting fee of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,00.00) USD (the "Fee"), via wire transfer or ACH to Consultant's bank account within 72 hours of execution of this Agreement. Except as expressly permitted under Section 10, the Fee is non-refundable. Client shall also thereafter, beginning in the month following the month in which the Fee is paid, pay Consultant one hundred ninety nine (\$199.00) USD per month (the "Maintenance Fee"), or thirty five percent

(35%) of the Net Profit from Client's Store per month (the "Ongoing Commission"), whichever is greater plus an additional ninety nine dollars (\$99) software fee paid directly to the software provider. Client shall not be responsible for payment of the Ongoing Commission or the Maintenance Fee if, other than E-Commerce Consulting Agreement due to breach of this Agreement by Client, there is no activity in Client's Store for said month (or a portion thereof, where such portion exceeds 15 days). Consultant shall invoice Client monthly, and Client has seventy-two (72) hours to remit payment. TERM – This Agreement shall commence on the last date of execution by both parties and shall continue in effect for a period of one (1) year (the "Initial Term") thereafter. Upon completion of the Initial Term, the Agreement shall automatically extend on a month-to-month basis (the "Option Term") until written notice is provided by either party, to the other party, in accordance with Section 5. TERMINATION – Client may terminate this Agreement at any time by providing written notice to Consultant. Consultant may terminate this Agreement, at any time, for cause, with thirty (30) days written notice to Client. Consultant may terminate the Option Term, with cause, at any time. For this Section, "cause" shall include, but not be limited to: (1) any act or omission by Client, which materially interferes with the operation of the Stores or Consultant's ability to render Services;; or (2) Client's breach of any term in this Agreement. If Client breaches any term under this Agreement, independent of any actions Amazon may take from time to time, Consultant may Pause Client's Stores, which, Consultant may only reactivate, in Consultant's sole discretion. NON-DISPARAGEMENT – During this Agreement and for one (1) year thereafter, the Parties mutually agree that any issues or problems that either party has regarding the other with respect to this Agreement, shall be discussed with the other party in a professional and private manner. The Parties hereby mutually agree not to disparage, insult, or fabricate information regarding the other party in any online or offline forum or any other forum whatsoever, including but not limited to social media channels, regardless of whether such comments or information would not constitute libel or slander, and regardless of whether such comments could be deemed factually true. SALES / USE TAX – Consultant does not provide tax reporting or tax management services of any kind. Client is responsible for determining if Client is responsible for collecting and remitting sales or use tax under any applicable state or local law, regulation, or ordinance. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY – Client understands that Client's Store is a service hosted on the Amazon FBA platform and not a distinct or severable product or service that can be ported, removed or installed in or on a different place or platform. Accordingly, Consultant does not hold itself out to have any rights, endorsements, relations, or affiliation with Amazon FBA, or any of Amazon's copyright, trademark, trade dress, trade secret, or any other intellectual property right that Amazon FBA may hold (the "Intellectual Property Rights"). Further, Consultant cannot, and does not, grant or convey to Client any Intellectual Property Rights, whatsoever, in

Client's Store, or Amazon FBA, and Consultant holds no legal or equitable rights in Client's Store. RESTRICTED ACTIVITIES – Client acknowledges that during the Term of this Agreement Client will have access to Consultant's Confidential Information which, if disclosed, could assist in competition against Consultant by third parties. Client recognizes the highly competitive nature of Consultant's business, services, and its trade secrets, and that Consultant conducts its business electronically, through e-commerce, and throughout the United States. Therefore, Client agrees that the following restrictions on Client's activities are necessary to protect the good will, Confidential Information, and other legitimate business interests of Consultant, which restrictions are fair and supported by adequate consideration: shareholders, employees, Non-Competition, agents, the Term members of the Agreement, and for two (2) years following the termination of this Agreement (the "Restricted Period"), Client shall not be involved, directly or indirectly, whether as owner, partner, investor, consultant (paid or unpaid), agent, employee, co-venturer or otherwise, with any business that manages, operates, or promotes e-commerce stores or e-commerce transactions on behalf of third parties anywhere in the United States, regardless of whether Client is physically located within the United States or outside of the United States. Non-Solicitation. During the Restricted Period, Client agrees that it will not, directly, or indirectly through another Person: (i) induce or attempt to induce any employee or contractor of Consultant to leave the employ or contract of Consultant, or in any way interfere with the relationship between Consultant and any of its employees or contractors, or (ii) induce or attempt to induce any customer, supplier, client, distributor, vendor, licensee, or other business relation of Consultant to cease doing business with Consultant, or in any way interfere with Consultant's relationship with any such party. Non-Disclosure. The Parties agree not to use, reveal, make available, nor disclose, whether directly or indirectly, to any third party any Confidential Information for any purpose except as approved in writing by Consultant. Further, the Parties shall (a) not assist nor enable anyone to access or use any of Confidential Information; and (b) not use nor exploit any of the Confidential Information for any purpose whatsoever except in accordance with the terms of this Agreement. For purposes of this Agreement, the Party disclosing the Confidential Information shall be referred to as "Disclosing Party," and the Party receiving the Confidential Information shall be referred to as "Receiving Party." Notwithstanding the foregoing, Receiving Party will: 1) promptly notify the Disclosing Party, to the extent legally permissible, if Receiving Party becomes required by court order to disclose any Confidential Information; 2) cooperate with Disclosing Party if Disclosing Party decides to oppose or to seek to restrain such disclosure; and 3) subject to the foregoing, only disclose that information which its counsel advises it is legally compelled to disclose. If at Disclosing Party's request, Receiving Party is unable to obtain a protective order or other injunctive relief above with respect to the Confidential Information referred to therein and

Receiving Party is thereafter required by court order to disclose such Confidential Information, Receiving Party may disclose only such Confidential Information as is expressly required by the court order. Maintenance of Confidential Information. The Receiving Party agrees that it shall take all reasonable measures to protect the secrecy of and avoid disclosure and unauthorized use of Disclosing Party's Confidential Information. Without limiting the foregoing, Receiving Party shall take at least those measures that Receiving Party takes to protect its own confidential information. Receiving Party shall also immediately notify Disclosing Party, in writing, of any unauthorized use or disclosure of the Confidential Information. Confidentiality Term: Regardless of any termination of this Agreement, the parties expressly acknowledge and agree that their respective rights and obligation under this Section 9 shall last for a period of five (5) years following the expiration of this Agreement or permissible termination of this Agreement; provided, however, that Client's duties of confidentiality thereunder with respect to Consultant's trade secrets shall survive such expiration and such duties of confidentiality shall continue and not expire so long as such Confidential Information is deemed a trade secret as a matter of law. In signing this Agreement, Client acknowledges that he/she/it has carefully read, consulted with legal counsel, and considered all the terms and conditions of this Agreement, including the restraints imposed on Client, throughout the United States, under this Section 9. Client agrees that all such restraints are necessary for the reasonable and proper protection of Consultant, and that each and every one of the restraints is reasonable in respect to subject matter, length of time and geographic area (i.e., throughout the United States). Client further acknowledges that, were Client to breach any of the covenants contained in this Section 9, however caused, the damage to the Consultant would be irreparable. Client therefore agrees that Consultant, in addition to any other remedies available to it, shall be entitled to preliminary and permanent injunctive relief against any such breach or threatened breach, without having to post bond, together with reasonable attorneys' fees incurred in enforcing Consultant's rights hereunder.

LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL CONSULTANT, OR ANY OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, EMPLOYEES, AGENTS OR REPRESENTATIVES BE LIABLE FOR ANY INCIDENTAL, INDIRECT, CONSEQUENTIAL, PUNITIVE, SPECIAL OR EXEMPLARY DAMAGES, HOWSOEVER OR WHENEVER ARISING, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, DAMAGES FOR LOST REVENUE, LOST PROFITS, ANTICIPATED PROFITS, LOST BUSINESS OR INJURY TO BUSINESS REPUTATION, COST OF PROCUREMENT OF SUBSTITUTE SERVICES, UNDER ANY THEORY OF LIABILITY OR CAUSE OF ACTION WHETHER IN TORT, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, NEGLIGENCE, CONTRACT OR OTHERWISE, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT IT HAS OR THEY HAVE BEEN

ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES. THIS LIMITATION OF LIABILITY SHALL NOT LIMIT CLIENT'S RIGHTS TO FILE SUIT AGAINST A THIRD PARTY OR PRODUCT VENDOR FOR ANY OF THE ABOVE LISTED CAUSES OF ACTION OR ANY OTHER CAUSE OF ACTION RELATED THERETO. SPECIFICALLY, CONSULTANT HEREBY COVENANTS THAT IT SHALL NOT TAKE ANY ACTION WHICH IS LIKELY TO CAUSE WAIVER OF ANY OF CLIENT'S RIGHTS WITH RESPECT TO THIRD-PARTY LIABILITY WITHOUT CLIENT'S PRIOR WRITTEN APPROVAL. CONSULTANT ASSUMES NO LIABILITY FOR OR RELATING TO THE DELAY, INTERRUPTION, CORRUPTION OR FAILURE OF PRODUCT, DATA OR INFORMATION TRANSMITTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE STORE, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION ANY ACT OR FAILURE TO ACT BY AMAZON OR ANY FORCE MAJEURE CONDITION (INCLUDING BY WAY OF EXAMPLE ONLY, ANY PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE). AS A LIQUIDATED DAMAGES REMEDY AND NOT AS A PENALTY, SINCE DAMAGES TO CLIENT RESULTING FROM BREACH OF THIS AGREEMENT BY CONSULTANT ARE DIFFICULT AND IMPRACTICAL, IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO CALCULATE, CONSULTANT SHALL ONLY BE LIABLE TO THE EXTENT OF ACTUAL DAMAGES INCURRED BY CLIENT, NOT TO EXCEED A TOTAL OF \$5,000.00 USD. AGREEMENT TO THIS PROVISION IS A MATERIAL INDUCEMENT TO CONSULTANT AGREEING TO ENTER INTO THIS AGREEMENT WITH CLIENT. THIS PROVISION 11.(C) SHALL PREVAIL IN THE EVENT OF ANY CONFLICT OR INCONSISTENCY WITH ANY OTHER PROVISION IN THIS AGREEMENT.

DISCLAIMERS AND RELEASE

CONSULTANT'S SERVICES ARE PROVIDED ON AN "AS IS" "AS AVAILABLE" BASIS WITHOUT ANY REPRESENTATIONS OR WARRANTIES. CLIENT MAY NOT RELY UPON ANY REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY REGARDING CONSULTANT'S SERVICES MADE BY ANY THIRD PARTY, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO REPRESENTATIONS BY THIRD PARTY SERVICE PROVIDERS. CLIENT AGREES THAT CONSULTANT SHALL BEAR NO RISK WHATSOEVER AS TO THE SALE OF PRODUCTS OR SERVICES. CONSULTANT SPECIFICALLY DISCLAIMS ANY AND ALL REPRESENTATIONS, WARRANTIES AND CONDITIONS, WHETHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, ARISING BY STATUTE, OPERATION OF LAW, USAGE OF TRADE, COURSE OF DEALING, OR OTHERWISE, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO WARRANTIES OR CONDITIONS OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, NON- INFRINGEMENT, OR TITLE WITH RESPECT TO CONSULTANT'S SERVICES, OR OTHER SERVICES OR GOODS PROVIDED UNDER THIS AGREEMENT. Without limiting the foregoing, Consultant makes no representations or warranties as to: (1) the accuracy, the reliability, or the completeness, of any matter within the scope of this Agreement, including but not limited to the Store, the products therein, or the data, information, content, software, technology, graphics, or communications provided on or through the Store; (2) the satisfaction of any regulation (government or otherwise) requiring disclosure of information on the products provided through or in connection with the Store or the approval or compliance of the Store or any software or information and content contained in the Store; or (3) that the Store will satisfy Client's

economic needs and requirements or reach any particular level of sales, income, or net profits. Business Risk – Client hereby understands that the creation and potential growth of the Client's Store carries financial and other risks. Client hereby understands that e-commerce is an ever-changing industry that is subject to numerous business risks, including but not limited to: (i) a changing legal environment in which regulations can emerge or change that affects the commercial sale of products through Amazon FBA via Client's Store; (ii) economic changes that affect consumer spending, the emergence of recessions due to economic and other issues (including public health issues) and the like; (iii) changes in the popular appeal of and demand for different types of Amazon FBA products; (iv) changes in Amazon's terms and conditions, which can materially affect or even interfere with the marketability of Client's Store or its products; (v) changes in international politics or economies, which may affect, among other things, the ability to package, distribute and ship Amazon FBA products, and the costs thereof; (vi) market forces, including increased and changing levels of competition for any given product from other sellers of such product; (vii) unforeseen events, force majeure, public health concerns, and other external events that could affect the performance of any Amazon FBA Store. Client hereby understands that there are no guarantees made by Consultant or otherwise as to the Store's sales, income, or profitability at any time, and acknowledges that Client is at risk of a total loss of his, her or its investment. Client acknowledges the substantial risks generally involved with an e-commerce business. Client recognizes that there is a possibility that subsequent to the execution of this Agreement, Client may discover facts or incur or suffer claims which were unknown or unsuspected at the time this Agreement was executed, and which if known by Client at that time may have materially affected Client's decision to execute this Agreement. By operation of this Agreement, and in particular the disclaimers of Consultant contained in the preceding subsections, Client assumes any and all risks of such unknown facts and such unknown and unsuspected claims and expressly releases Consultant for any liability which Consultant could have had in connection therewith in the absence of the release herein provided by Client to Consultant. Consultant encourages Client to only invest funds that Client can afford to invest in an illiquid basis over a longer-term and perhaps ultimately lose, and to consult Client's legal and/or business advisors prior to investing in the Store. Amazon FBA Terms and Conditions – Client hereby understands that Amazon FBA, from time to time, with or without cause, can and does suspend accounts for various reasons, some of which may not be obvious or justified in the Client's view. In the event Client's Store is suspended, consultant will assist in sending an appeal on behalf of the Client and working with Amazon FBA to remedy the situation at no extra cost. Consultant makes no representations or warranties of any kind, however, that Amazon FBA will in such cases return Client's Store to active status. Furthermore, Client agrees and understands that the Consultant

makes no guarantees or representations regarding the Store in relation to any Amazon FBA policy, whether currently in effect or as may be amended by Amazon FBA from time to time. Client understands that Consultant has no control over or input in when and whether Amazon FBA elects to change any of its policies. However, the Services provided by Consultant to Client pursuant to this Agreement shall where practical be consistent with Amazon's current policies.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Non-exclusivity - Each party is free to contract with others with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement subject to the limitations as to Client under Section 6 and Section 9 of this Agreement.

Relationship of the Parties - Nothing herein contained shall constitute a partnership or a joint venture between the Parties. Consultant is performing its services to Client as an independent contractor and not as Client's agent or employee. There is no third-party beneficiary to this Agreement.

Notices - All notices to either party shall be sent electronically to the email address(es) provided by each Party to the other and as otherwise set forth below. All notices to Consultant shall be sent to info@passivescaling.com. If to Client, notice shall be sent electronically to , with a courtesy copy sent to . Alternatively, such written notice will also be deemed given upon personal delivery, or on receipt or refusal if sent by U.S. first class certified or registered mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, or by a recognized private delivery service, to the addresses stated on Page 1 of this Agreement.

Severability, Headings - If any provision is held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the remaining provisions will continue in full force and effect. In such event, the Parties hereby acknowledge their intent to make such invalidated provision, or part of such provision, as to be deemed replaced with a valid provision or part of provision that most closely approximates and gives effect to the intent of the invalid provision. Any such modification shall revise the existing invalid provision, or part thereof, only as much as necessary to make the invalidly-held provision otherwise valid.

Headings are used for convenience of reference only, and in no way define, limit, construe or describe the scope or extent of any section of this Agreement.

Dispute Resolution - Except where otherwise expressly set forth in this Agreement, any dispute or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement shall only be resolved by binding arbitration. The arbitration of any dispute or claim shall be conducted in accordance with the American Arbitration Association ("AAA") rules, as modified by this Agreement, which shall take place in Miami-Dade County, Florida. Any arbitration proceeding, determination, or award, shall be confidential, and neither Party may disclose the existence, content or results of any arbitration, except as may be required by law or for purposes of enforcement. Judgment on any arbitration award may be entered in any court having proper jurisdiction. All administrative fees and expenses of such

arbitration proceeding will be divided equally between the parties, though each Party will bear its own expense of counsel, experts, witnesses and preparation and presentation of evidence at the arbitration (except where attorneys' fees and costs shall be awarded pursuant to Section 13.(L)). IF FOR ANY REASON THIS ARBITRATION CLAUSE IS DEEMED INAPPLICABLE OR INVALID, THE PARTIES FOREVER AND WITHOUT EXCEPTION WAIVE, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW, ANY RIGHT TO PURSUE ANY CLAIMS ON A CLASS OR CONSOLIDATED BASIS OR IN A REPRESENTATIVE CAPACITY. No action, regardless of form, arising out of or in conjunction with the subject matter of this Agreement may be brought by either Party more than one (1) year after the cause of action arose. Amendment. This Agreement cannot be amended except in writing and signed by both Parties. Electronic Signatures - This Agreement may be executed by electronic means and in any number of counterparts, each of which when so executed and delivered will be deemed an original, and all such counterparts together will constitute one and the same instrument. Governing Law; Jurisdiction - This Agreement, the negotiations thereunder, and performance thereof shall be interpreted, construed and enforced in all respects in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida without reference to principles of conflicts of laws. Client hereby irrevocably consents to the personal jurisdiction of and agrees that the sole venue for any dispute arising in connection to this Agreement shall be the courts of competent jurisdiction (State and federal) located within Miami-Dade County, Florida. Client agrees not to commence or prosecute any such action, claim or proceeding other than in such aforementioned courts. The parties hereto agree that Florida law shall apply regardless of any choice or conflicts of law principles. Client agrees that Miami-Dade County, Florida is a convenient forum, and waives any objection to same under forum non conveniens principles. Waiver - The failure of any party to insist on or enforce strict performance of any provision of this Agreement, or to exercise any right or remedy under this Agreement or applicable law shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment of the right to assert or rely upon any such provision, right or remedy. Force Majeure - Neither Party shall be responsible for any failure to perform beyond its reasonable control, including, without limitation acts of God, national health emergency, acts or omissions of civil or military authority, civil disturbances, wars, strikes or other labor disputes, fires, transportation contingencies, or interruptions in telecommunications, internet services, or third-party vendors. Entire Agreement - This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes all prior and contemporaneous oral and written agreements relating to the subject matter herein. Attorneys' Fees - If either party breaches this Agreement, or one party brings any action (including appeal) against the breaching party in connection with this Agreement, the substantially prevailing party in such action shall be entitled to recover his/her/its cost of the action and reasonable attorneys' fees. Injunctive Relief - In the event of a breach or threatened breach of Section 6 or Section 9, the

aggrieved party shall immediately be entitled to pursue in any court of competent jurisdiction specific performance, injunctive relief, damages, or such other remedies and relief as may be available, regardless of any contrary provision of this Agreement. Additionally, due to the difficulty of measuring damages in the event of a breach of this Agreement by Client, the parties agree that, in the event of a breach of either Section 6 or Section 9 by Client, Client shall owe Consultant total liquidated damages in the amount of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) per breach. The Parties further agree that (i) the liquidated damage amount due from Client as above set forth is not a penalty but is an arms-length negotiated amount under the circumstances, and (ii) this Section shall not be construed as a waiver of prohibition of any other remedies of Consultant in the event of a breach of this Agreement by Client.

Independent Counsel – The Parties acknowledge that each has been advised to seek, and each has had sufficient opportunity to seek, independent legal counsel possessing industry experience in connection with this matter. The Parties have either sought such counsel or voluntarily waived such right to do so. Accordingly, in interpreting this Agreement, no weight shall be placed upon either party. Furthermore, the parties equally drafted this agreement; thus, the Agreement shall be construed neutrally, and no rule of construction shall apply to the disadvantage of any Party.

Assignment – Neither party may assign its rights or obligations under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other party. Prior to any such assignment, said assignee shall execute an agreement identical to this Agreement. Subject to the foregoing, this Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto, their successors, and assigns. Any purported assignment or delegation by either party in violation of the foregoing shall be null and void ab initio and of no force and effect.

Cure – If at any time either Client believes the terms of this Agreement are not being fully performed, prior to seeking or commencing any relief expressly permitted under this Agreement, Client shall notify Consultant in writing of the specific nature of such claim, and Consultant receiving such notice shall have thirty (30) days from receipt of the notice to cure such claimed breach.

Indemnification – Client agrees to indemnify, defend, and save and hold harmless Consultant, including its respective insurers, directors, officers, employees, agents, and representatives (collectively the “Indemnified Parties” and each an “Indemnified Party”), and to hold each Indemnified Party harmless from and against any and all claims, damages, losses, liabilities and expenses (including all attorneys’ fees and costs) which any Indemnified Party may incur or which may be asserted against any Indemnified Party by any person, entity or governmental authority, throughout the world, in connection with or relating to the matters referred to in this Agreement, resulting from or relating directly or indirectly to Client’s breach of this Agreement. The foregoing indemnity specifically includes, but is not limited to, any breach of any representation, warranty, or covenant in this Agreement applicable to

Client, and shall survive expiration or termination of this Agreement. Survival – Any Section in this Agreement that requires survival shall survive the termination of this Agreement for the maximum period permitted by applicable law. Client Data Management – Unless Consultant receives Client's prior written consent, Consultant shall not: (i) access, process, or otherwise use Client's Data other than as necessary to facilitate Consultant's Services; (ii) give any of its employees access to Client Data except to the extent that such individuals need access to Client Data to facilitate performance of Consultant under this Agreement; or (iii) give any other third-party access to Client Data except as necessary for such third-party to facilitate performance under this Agreement. Consultant shall not erase Client Data, or any copy thereof, without Client's express written consent and shall follow Client's written instructions regarding retention and erasure of Client Data so long as it does not interfere with the performance of Consultant's Services and performance under this Agreement. Client possesses and retains all right, title, and interest in and to Client Data, and Consultant's use and possession thereof is solely in furtherance of Consultant's Services and on Client's behalf. Consultant shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations governing the handling of Client Data and shall not engage in any activity that would place Client in violation of any applicable law, regulation, or government request, or judicial process. Waiver of Jury Trial. EACH PARTY HERETO HEREBY WAIVES, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, ANY RIGHT IT MAY HAVE TO A TRIAL BY JURY IN ANY LEGAL PROCEEDING DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT OR THE TRANSACTIONS CONTEMPLATED HEREBY (WHETHER BASED ON CONTRACT, TORT OR ANY OTHER THEORY). EACH PARTY HERETO (A) CERTIFIES THAT NO REPRESENTATIVE, AGENT OR ATTORNEY OF ANY OTHER PARTY HAS REPRESENTED, EXPRESSLY OR OTHERWISE, THAT SUCH OTHER PARTY WOULD NOT, IN THE EVENT OF LITIGATION, SEEK TO ENFORCE THE FOREGOING WAIVER AND (B) ACKNOWLEDGES THAT IT AND THE OTHER PARTIES HERETO HAVE BEEN MATERIALLY INDUCED TO ENTER INTO THIS AGREEMENT BY, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE MUTUAL WAIVERS AND CERTIFICATIONS IN THIS SECTION. Ministerial Services – In furtherance of Client's obligations under Section 2, Consultant may offer Client guidance and referrals to third-party vendors. Additionally, Consultant may, in its discretion, and at no additional fee to Client, offer Client assistance in fulfillment of the obligations in Section 2 ("Ministerial Act"). Before Consultant commences any Ministerial Act, Consultant shall obtain Client's written consent. Client agrees to reimburse Consultant for expenses incurred in carrying out a Ministerial Act. In the event Consultant offers to engage in a Ministerial Act, Client hereby agrees to indemnify, defend and save and hold harmless Consultant from any cost, claim, damage or liability (including attorneys' fees and court costs) related to the Ministerial Act. Client also waives any claims against Consultant that may be related to the Ministerial Act. Client accepts that this indemnification and waiver of all liability related to the Ministerial Act is a material inducement for

Consultant to make any offer to Client for such Ministerial Act, and without such indemnification and waiver from Client, Consultant would not make any such offer of assistance to Client to engage in the Ministerial Act. The foregoing indemnity of Client shall survive expiration of the Term of this Agreement or its earlier termination. DEFINITIONS – Words or phrases which are initially capitalized or are within quotation marks shall have the meanings as provided in Exhibit A of this Agreement, which is fully incorporated by reference and is a material part of this Agreement.

EXHIBIT A Definitions: Words or phrases which are initially capitalized or are within quotation marks in the e-commerce consulting agreement (“Agreement”) shall have the meanings provided in this Exhibit A. “Cash Back” means any revenue derived from cash back programs like Be Frugal. “Client Data” refers to any and all information processed or stored on computers or other electronic media by Consultant, by Client, or on Client’s behalf, or provided to Consultant by Client to perform the Services contemplated under this Agreement; including: information on paper or other non-electronic media, information provided to Consultant by Client, and personally identifiable information from Client, Client affiliated third-parties, and other users. “Confidential information” means any and all information of the Company that is not generally known to the public or those with whom the Company competes or does business, or with whom they plan to compete or do business, and any and all information, publicly known publicly known in whole or in part or not, which, if disclosed would assist in competition against them including without limitation: Consultant’s proprietary business information and all information disclosed or made available by Consultant to Client, either directly or indirectly, in writing, orally, by demonstration, or by inspection of tangible or intangible objects, including without limitation documents, files, texts, emails, phone calls, zoom calls, links, source code, software, charts, graphs, and any other form of communication. Confidential Information also includes information disclosed by Client to Consultant. Confidential Information shall not include any information (a) which Client can establish was publicly known and made generally available in the public domain prior to the time of disclosure, other than as a result of an improper disclosure by a party hereto, or (b) was in Client’s possession on a non-confidential basis prior to its disclosure. “Net Profit” means the revenue, income, and sums owed to Client through the operation of Client’s Store after deduction of (i) the cost of any goods sold in connection with Client’s Store, and (ii) any Amazon FBA fees related to Client’s store. “Pause” means the Store is considered in “Vacation Mode” due to a variety of reasons, including, but not limited to, insufficient credit available by Client to permit Consultant to render its services to Client as provided herein. “Prohibited Action” means any affirmative action taken by Consultant which constitutes: (1) willful copyright infringement as defined under the U.S. Copyright Act or (2) late shipping of product, i.e., greater than five (5) days from the date of expected

delivery of the goods, solely due to the fault of Consultant, and as to which the actions under (1) and (2) above have resulted in the Suspension of Client's Store. The term "proprietary business information" means Consultant's valuable trade secrets and confidential business information regarding its brand, vendors, sources, suppliers, techniques, processes, products, services, including, but not limited to, information regarding e-commerce transactions, Amazon FBA transactions, training materials, marketing and advertising materials, trade or industrial practices, customer and client correspondence, internal memoranda, project files, marketing plans, distribution channels, and relationships with, and identities of, customers, investors, clients, buyers, sellers, brokers, agents, representatives, distributors, manufacturers, and managers, as well as financial information, business, marketing and operating information, geographic sales information, social media analytics, price comparison information, sales data, sales programs, sales volumes, sales conversion rates, sales methods and processes, sales proposals, products, services, training manuals, sales scripts, income information, profit information, operating procedures, pricing policies, strategic plans, intellectual property, information about Consultant's clients, employees and contractors, and other confidential or proprietary information related to Consultant. The term "Store" means the Client's wholly owned e-commerce location on the third-party Amazon.com FBA.com where products may be sold to third parties (there is no affiliation, endorsement, or sponsorship between Consultant and Amazon FBA). "Suspension" means an action or actions by Amazon FBA which inactivates or freeze Client's Store, and which thereby results in an inability for Client to access Client's Store which results in no access or sales activity through the Store, other than where due to the occurrence of a Prohibited Action. "Vacation Mode" means any action other than a breach of this Agreement by Client which results in a condition of Client's Store where all sales activity in the Store has been temporarily halted.

TERMINATION –

Client may terminate this Agreement at any time by providing written notice to Consultant. Consultant may terminate this Agreement, at any time, for cause, with fourteen (14) days written notice to Client. Consultant may terminate the Option Term, without cause, at any time. For this Section, "cause" shall include, but not be limited to: (1) any act or omission by Client, which interferes with the operation of the Store or Consultant's ability to render Services, in Consultant's sole discretion; or (2) Client's breach or threatened breach of any term in this Agreement. If Client breaches any term under this Agreement, independent of any actions Amazon may take from time to time, Consultant may Pause Client's Store, which, Consultant may only reactivate, in Consultant's sole discretion.

REFUND POLICY –

A. Subject to Paragraph (C) below, during the Term of this Agreement, if Consultant's Services result in a Prohibited Action, twice, Client has the option ("Refund Option") to request a refund. Additionally, following an eighteen (18) month period if the Client has not made back their initial store costs, Client has the option to request a refund within a thirty (30) day period following their 18th month of working days. To exercise the Refund Option, Client must notify Consultant of that election in writing. In that event, subject to Paragraph (C), Consultant will refund a portion of the Fee, as defined in Paragraph (B) below (the "Refund Amount").

B. The Refund Amount shall be calculated by the following formula: (x) the Fee less (y) any Net Profit and Cash Back Client received during the Refund Period, and less (z) any Net Profit and Cash Back Client received through Passive Scaling; provided, however, that (1) Client has not engaged in any act that interferes with the operation of Client's Store or of Consultant's Services or which would be in breach of this Agreement, including, without limitation, a Suspension of Client's Store for any reason other than the occurrence of a Prohibited Action, and (2) this Agreement remains in full force and effect at the time Client exercises the Refund Option. The Parties further agree that under no circumstance shall the Refund Amount exceed the Fee.

C. Client's right to exercise the Refund Option under Paragraph (A) is expressly conditioned on Consultant first managing one replacement store (the "Cure Store") for Client, and the Cure Store also results in a Prohibited Action.

I, Michael Hickenlooper, agree to the terms of this agreement and I agree that my typed name below can be used as a digital representation of my signature to that fact.

Michael Hickenlooper

SIGNED BY

Michael Hickenlooper

SIGNED ON

Date Signed: 8 Mar 2022

Time Signed: 09:34

IP ADDRESS FROM SIGNATURE LOCATION

107.77.237.224



SIGNED WITH BETTERPROPOSALS.COM

Build and send beautiful sales documents in minutes to help your business close more deals and get paid faster.

Wire Instructions

PASSIVE SCALING INC

78 JOHN MILLER WAY SUITE 2111
KEARNY NJ 07032

Signature Bank

565 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10017

Account# 8687

Routing #

HMH Industries, LLC

Profit and Loss

March 8, 2022 - September 8, 2023

	TOTAL
Income	
Sales	14,001.72
Total Income	\$14,001.72
Cost of Goods Sold	
Cost of goods sold	32,348.33
Shipping	398.90
Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$32,747.23
GROSS PROFIT	\$ -18,745.51
Expenses	
Business licenses	105.00
General business expenses	
Memberships & subscriptions	972.57
Total General business expenses	972.57
Total Expenses	\$1,077.57
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$ -19,823.08
NET INCOME	\$ -19,823.08

HIW and Comany, LLC

Profit and Loss

March 8, 2022 - September 8, 2023

	TOTAL
Income	
Channel Discount	
Amazon Discount	-88.63
Total Channel Discount	-88.63
Channel Reimbursement	
Amazon Reimbursement	1,820.38
Total Channel Reimbursement	1,820.38
Channel Sales	
Amazon Sales	4,977.35
Total Channel Sales	4,977.35
Channel Shipping Income	
Amazon Shipping Income	187.30
Total Channel Shipping Income	187.30
Sales	3,015.49
Total Income	\$9,911.89
Cost of Goods Sold	
Channel Adjustments	
Amazon Other Adjustments	72.56
Total Channel Adjustments	72.56
Channel Fulfillment and Warehousing Fees	
Amazon Fulfillment and Warehousing Fees	2,601.89
Total Channel Fulfillment and Warehousing Fees	2,601.89
Channel Selling Fees	
Amazon Selling Fees	773.00
Total Channel Selling Fees	773.00
Cost of goods sold	12,822.87
Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$16,270.32
GROSS PROFIT	\$ -6,358.43
Expenses	
Business licenses	75.00
Channel Subscription Fees	
Amazon Subscription Fees	159.96
Total Channel Subscription Fees	159.96
Office expenses	
Merchant account fees	9.00
Shipping & postage	1,491.88
Software & apps	810.56
Total Office expenses	2,311.44

HIW and Comany, LLC

Profit and Loss

March 8, 2022 - September 8, 2023

	TOTAL
Taxes paid	30.00
Total Expenses	\$2,576.40
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$ -8,934.83
NET INCOME	\$ -8,934.83

[REDACTED]

From: Michael Hickenlooper [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 11:03 AM
To: Passive Scaling Support <sales@passivescaling.com>
Cc: info@passivescaling.com <info@passivescaling.com>; Jerdonna P <jerdonna@passivescaling.com>; Shion G <shion@passivescaling.com>
Subject: Re: 18-month status and refund

Any status update from your end?

On Nov 27, 2023, at 9:58 AM, Michael Hickenlooper
[REDACTED] > wrote:

Hello,

Following up on the message below. You said there would be a settlement sent over a few weeks ago. When do you anticipate having that ready to send?

Thanks,
Mike

From: Passive Scaling Support <sales@passivescaling.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 8:13 AM
To: Michael Hickenlooper [REDACTED] >
Cc: info@passivescaling.com <info@passivescaling.com>; Jerdonna P <jerdonna@passivescaling.com>; Shion G <shion@passivescaling.com>
Subject: Re: 18-month status and refund

Hello Michael,

Apologies for the delay the teams are looking more in to this so that we can provide you with a settlement agreement by the latest next week. Please note that we have started to provide clients with settlements these settlements are 50-70% of the initial amount paid. We will provide you with a follow-up for the next steps.

On Thu, Nov 2, 2023 at 10:36 AM Michael Hickenlooper
[REDACTED] > wrote:

Hello,

I appreciate the response. The reason the store hasn't been up for that time period is because of the time it took to get the stores set up. Communication has been very poor throughout this entire process. I still haven't heard from the "reestablished point of contact". Who will that be?

Also, my understanding is that my stores are very low in inventory right now. I have capital in the account ready to be used, but I have yet to even receive the inventory I have paid for. I have spent close to \$30,000 on inventory, yet there is no inventory currently and you are telling me that I have only received \$15,000 in payouts? Where is the difference?

As you can see from the P&Ls I shared, I have not "recouped" my initial store costs. In fact, the businesses are operating at a loss, so I would expect the full cost will be eligible for the refund unless we see some drastic change in the profit.

I repeatedly followed up at the start of the process letting the team know that I had more capital to put to work if this were profitable. Silence. I would just randomly receive purchase orders that I would pay. Those POs have stopped coming. I have a budget, but I can't get a hold of anybody to communicate that.

The BBB complaint will not be marked as resolved until this is truly resolved, which I don't feel it is at this point. One email response after months of reaching out to you does not constitute a resolved complaint.

Thanks,
Michael

From: Passive Scaling Support <sales@passivescaling.com>

Sent: Monday, October 30, 2023 11:08 AM

To: Michael Hickenlooper <[REDACTED]>

Cc: info@passivescaling.com <info@passivescaling.com>; Jerdonna P <jerdonna@passivescaling.com>; Shion G <shion@passivescaling.com>

Subject: Re: 18-month status and refund

Dear Mr. Michael H,

I hope this email finds you in good health. We appreciate your patience and thank you for reaching out to us regarding your refund request. I wanted to provide you with an update based on the terms outlined in your client contract.

As per the terms of your contract, there are two scenarios under which a refund can be considered:

Refund Option 1: If the Consultant's Services result in a Prohibited Action occurring twice during the Term of this Agreement, you have the option to request a refund.

Refund Option 2: Following an eighteen (18) month period, if you have not recouped your initial store costs, you have the option to request a refund within thirty (30) days after your 18th month of working days.

Upon reviewing your store activity, we noted the following details:

Store Start Date: October 22, 2022

Last Order Placed: July 2023

Payouts for Amazon: \$15257.38

Based on these dates, your store has been active since its setup; however, it has not been active for the required 18 months of working days outlined in the contract terms. Therefore, as of now, your request does not meet the criteria for a refund under the contract.

Additionally, as stipulated in the contract, it is necessary for you to provide our team with a monthly budget for purchases. Without this information, we are unable to recoup your initial investment effectively.

We understand that there have been breakdowns in communication, and we sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. Despite the lack of a budget, our team has diligently managed and maintained the remaining inventory in your store. We are actively investigating the communication issues that occurred.

In light of the situation, we would like to propose the following steps to move forward:

Contract Continuation: We have re-established a point of contact for your store, ensuring consistent communication for the remainder of the contract duration.

Regular Store Follow-Ups: We will schedule 30-day store follow-ups with you, your store manager, and a member of our management staff. These follow-ups will take place every month for the next 90-120 days to ensure continuous communication and timely issue resolution.

While your current contract does not qualify for a refund, we believe that with improved communication and collaboration, we can navigate any challenges effectively. We kindly request that you reach out to the Better Business Bureau (BBB) to resolve the filed complaint, as this will aid in our efforts to continue working together smoothly.

Our team is committed to resolving this issue promptly and moving forward with the next steps to ensure the success of your store.

We appreciate your cooperation and look forward to a positive and productive partnership.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out. Thank you for your understanding and continued collaboration.

On Wed, Oct 25, 2023 at 12:49 PM Michael Hickenlooper

<[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hello,

Will you please put me in contact with your legal team? When notifying your company of our contract the direction I received was to reach out directly on this email. Please put me in contact with the correct person to discuss this with.

Thanks,
Michael

From: Michael Hickenlooper
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 7:44 PM
To: info@passivescaling.com <info@passivescaling.com>
Cc: Jerdonna P <jerdonna@passivescaling.com>
Subject: 18-month status and refund

Hello,

This message is for the legal team in regard to our contract with the 18-month refund policy. Jerdonna asked that I reach out to this email to get in touch with them. Attached are profit and loss statements for both businesses that were set up through your firm, HMM Industries and HIW and Company. As you will see, both stores have operated at losses since signing our contract 3/8/2022. The 18-month expiration is today. Both statements exclude the initial set up fee with your group of \$50,000. According to the "Refund Amount" calculation in the agreement, I am entitled to a refund of the initial fee of \$50,000 (given there has been no profit to subtract off that).

Please let me know the next steps to receive the refund.

Thanks,
Mike Hickenlooper